

September 29, 1953

Dr. C. Stapp
Biol. Zentralanstalt
Messweg 25
20b, Braunschweig-Gliesmarode
Germany

Dear Dr. Stapp:

I have only recently acquired your address in Germany which now permits me to communicate with you. Under separate cover, I am sending a few reprints covering my work on sexual processes in bacteria since 1946. In view of your most provocative studies with Bortels and others on morphological processes in *Phytomonas* (*Agrobacterium*) *tumefaciens*, I have been waiting for such an opportunity for some time.

We are only now seriously undertaking a cytological study of mating possibilities in *E. coli*, with results that are so far only faintly encouraging (i.e. pictures resembling Potthoff's "Verbindungsbrücke" whose significance we cannot yet be sure of). If there is any possibility of it, I would be most indebted to you for reprints of your past and present publications in the field of bacterial cytology (and/or variability).

If you could provide me with information on the present whereabouts (I almost fear to ask the fate of some of these) of other German workers in this field, I would be greatly indebted: Piekarski, Stille, Neumann, Bortels....

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg
Associate Professor of Genetics

P.S.

Does there exist a directory or mailing list for microbiologists in Germany? If so, our University Library should certainly acquire a copy.

JL